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20 March 1961

DEPUTIES' MEETING

Present: Mr. Dulles, General Cabell, Mr. Bissell, Mr. Amory,
Colonel White, Mr. Kirkpatrick, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Sheldon,
Mr. Kent, [REDACTED]

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MR. DULLES:

25X1 [REDACTED] a. Referred to a recent exchange of cables with [REDACTED] regarding a report on government official^a traveling abroad, and stated it was not his intent to discourage such reporting as long as the reports contain policy and intelligence ~~for~~ information. He said, however, he did not want Agency channels used to transmit personality items unless the Chief of Station felt there is a direct reflection on the traveler's mission. When this is the case, this type of information will be transmitted separately through operational channels and dissemination at Headquarters held to an absolute minimum. Items pertaining to personal conduct and security on U. S. Government officials traveling abroad that come to the Agency's attention will be reported as prescribed in regulations. Action: DD/P to prepare a memorandum to the field for the Director's approval.

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b. Noted he had seen a report indicating that the Satellites are exporting foodstuff to Communist China, and commented if this is true, it might be a useful propaganda ploy to publicize such action, indicating that the USSR is forcing its European satellites to support Communist China. Action: DD/P

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c. Noted a report in the New York Times that the East Germans are giving up the manufacture of Soviet planes due to a lack of raw materials and defection of technicians to West Germany, and asked if this information could be verified. Action: DD/P

d. Noted at the "Thursday Luncheon" on 16 March the following items had been discussed:

1. Under Secretary of State Bowles had referred to the piece Newsweek is doing on the Director and the Agency, and

in view of the detail Newsweek is apparently going into in seeking information on Agency activities abroad, indicated he might attempt to squelch this story. The Director said he advised Mr. Bowles he had no objection whatsoever and in fact had already spoken to the author, Mr. Cannon. He commented he had pointed out to Mr. Bowles that initially he had been led to believe that the article was to be a profile on the Director and not a story on the Agency as a whole. Dr. Kent asked if we would have an opportunity to vet the article and the Director stated this was his understanding. Dr. Kent then remarked that he sincerely hoped that the captions would not be "as horrifying" as those in the Look article of 1951. The Director agreed with Dr. Kent's comment and asked [redacted] to speak to [redacted] about this point.

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2. The subject of when Communist China would get its first nuclear device and whether the U. S. should begin to prepare now insofar as publicity is concerned.

3. It had been reported that [redacted] is now working for State on the military aid program.

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4. George Chapman has been appointed Labor Adviser to the Department of State. (The Director asked DD/P to so advise Mr. Cord Meyer and ask him to get in touch with Chapman.)

5. Under Secretary Bowles had indicated that Congressman Porter Hardy and his Subcommittee on Government Operations is pushing the State Department for various and sundry documents, indicating the possibility of the Subcommittee investigating the Department of State.

6. The President is seeing Jim Killian on 20 March and may possibly ask him to take over as Chairman of the President's Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities.

7. Hugh Farley of ICA is in Washington and attempting to see various high officials and give them his views on the worsening of the situation in Korea. The Director is seeing Mr. Farley today.

8. The development of a nuclear plane and what impact this would have if the Soviets accomplish this first. The Director said his only comment was we should be careful what we say now insofar as U. S. chances are concerned in order to avoid any controversy with the Congress should it be decided at a later date to request a large appropriation for such a program.

9. It had been mentioned that Sam Berger is being considered as Ambassador to Korea, and the Director had commented that Berger knows his way around in labor circles.

10. Edward R. Murrow had asked whether the U. S. should play up the Venus probe. The Director said he had told the group that the Soviets had lost contact with the vehicle and suggested that Mr. Murrow discuss this matter with Dr. Scoville.



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MR. BISSELL:

Noted DD/S' memorandum concerning the new State Department procedure on briefing new ambassadors, and it was agreed that insofar as CIA is concerned, we still desire to brief these people as heretofore. ✓
Whether or not representatives from the Agency would attend briefings in State was not finally decided. It was also agreed that Mr. Amory would speak to Mr. Kalijarvi in State about this matter and Mr. Bissell would mention it to Joe Scott.

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MR. SHELDON:

Noted in a recent conversation with General Clifton, the latter had indicated that he wished to attend a meeting or two of USIB, and possibly the President might wish to attend one of these meetings at an early date.

MR. BARNES:

Reported that Tom Mann had asked Ambassador Harrington to prepare a memorandum on the influence of CIA on the Department of State in Latin America. After some discussion, it was agreed that J. C. King, at his weekly meeting with Mr. Mann, would ask if he had directed such a paper to be prepared. The Director commented that it was his understanding that Harrington may be looking for a job and noted we might be able to use him.

COLONEL WHITE:

Referred to the government directive prohibiting shipment of foreign automobiles purchased abroad after 1 March, and said his office was being bedeviled for an interpretation, e. g., what happens when an employee purchases a foreign car in good faith and then is told delivery cannot be made for some months. After some discussion, it was agreed that a reasonable time would be acceptable for late deliveries when purchased in good faith on or before 1 March.


JSE

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